

Propositions to accompany the PhD thesis

Everyday experiences of privacy and surveillance

Negotiating appropriate forms of monitoring

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1. The interfaces of digital communication tools default to unlimited visibility which creates a divide between skilled users protecting their privacy and less tech-savvy users failing to adjust privacy settings (this dissertation).
2. Family surveillance can take reciprocal forms when monitoring tools allow children to keep an eye on their parents (this dissertation).
3. Digital communication practices can be seen as bricolages; people use the communication tools they have at hand and often engage in the re-ordering of flexible conversation flows (this dissertation).
4. Key to increasing privacy awareness is to make privacy tangible through material elements, metaphors, and personal experiences (this dissertation).
5. Privacy is enacted through a process of sculpting and managing digital, physical, and communicative boundaries which happens unconsciously as well as consciously (this dissertation).
6. Smart technologies blend into everyday practices to the point where people only notice their existence when they stop functioning.
7. People do not experience privacy until their privacy is breached.
8. Taking digital and non-digital communication practices into consideration, context collapse can better be understood as context convergence.
9. Interactions with and through smart technologies can alter the dynamics of interpersonal relationships between household members.
10. Surveillance is in essence a participatory practice; without the participation of surveilling actors or subjects of surveillance there is no surveillance.
11. Christof (director): "I know you better than you know yourself."
Truman Burbank: "You never had a camera in my head."
The Truman Show (Weir, 1998)